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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1958





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ULVERSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958

Town Hall,

ULVERSTON.

August, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ulverston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	3,196
Population - Census 1951	10,076
- Registrar General's Estimate of home population mid 1958	10,400
Number of inhabited houses	3,274
Rateable Value	£107,320
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	£415.670

Although a large part of the district is rural in character a variety of industries are carried on in the town, the chief of which are tanning, manufacture of anti-biotics, electrical accessories, light engineering, dress making and fancy goods. Agriculture plays a large part in the life of the community and a cattle market is held weekly. Ulverston is also the market town for the surrounding countryside and a public market is held once a week.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The principal vital statistics for 1958 and for the preceding five years are given on page 2.

Of the 139 births registered during 1958, 69 were males of which 1 was illegitimate and 70 were females of which 1 was illegitimate.

Approximately 73% of deaths were of persons 65 years of age and over. The principal causes of deaths were:- Heart disease 69, Vascular lesions of the nervous system 23 and Malignant Growths 21. Of the 69 deaths from Heart disease, 39 were due to Coronary Artery disease.

Year.	Live Births.		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths.		Maternal Mortality.		Infant Mortality			
	Number Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation.	Number Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation.	Number Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. of deaths Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. of deaths Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	No. of deaths Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
1958	139	x13.4	157	x15.1	1	7	Nil	Nil	3	21.6	2	14.4
1957	150	14.4	112	10.8	8	51	1	6.33	1	7	1	7
1956	158	15.3	131	12.6	4	25	Nil	Nil	6	38	6	38
1955	142	13.8	110	10.7	1	7	Nil	Nil	1	7	1	7
1954	133	13.0	124	12.1	2	15	Nil	Nil	2	15	2	15
1953	139	13.7	126	12.4	3	21	Nil	Nil	4	29	3	22
Average 5 years 1953 -1957	-	14.0	-	11.7	-	23.8	-	1.26	-	19.2	-	17.8

x Adjusted live birth rate (comparability factor 1.01) = 13.5 per 1,000
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 0.90)= 13.6 per 1,000

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales and this District.

The rates quoted are for 1,000 population in all cases.

Year.	England and Wales.		Ulverston Urban District.	
	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1958	16.4	11.7	13.5	13.6
1957	16.1	11.5	14.5	10.0
1956	15.6	11.7	15.6	11.8
1955	15.0	11.7	14.1	9.3
1954	15.2	11.3	13.2	10.5

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:-

J.L. WILD, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held:-

Medical Officer of Health -
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District.
Grange-over-Sands Urban District.
Ulverston Rural District.

Divisional Medical Officer -
Health Division No. 1 -
Lancashire County Council.

Public Health Inspector:-

J.K.YATES, Joint Board Certificate, R.S.I.
Meat and Other Foods.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by Barrow Corporation from Pennington Reservoir to the Ulverston Urban District Council's water works at Castle Hill, Pennington. Here the water is sand filtered before storage in a service reservoir of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons capacity. Before passing into the trunk main for distribution the water is subjected to chlorination.

The supply was satisfactory in quantity during the year.

Four bacteriological analyses and 1 chemical analysis of the treated water were satisfactory. Three analyses of the raw water proved satisfactory and one sample taken from a private raw water supply proved unsatisfactory.

During the year 29 new houses were connected to the public mains and at the end of the year 3,223 houses were supplied direct to the houses. 7 were supplied by standpipes and 14 from private supplies.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The new system of drainage and sewage disposal which was described in last years report has proved to be very satisfactory and a considerable improvement on the system which it has replaced. The outfall bay is now much cleaner.

At 31st December, 1958 there were approximately 3,240 houses on the water carriage system with approximately 4,800 water closets. During the year two pail closets were converted to fresh water closets.

HOUSING.

		Flats	Houses.
Number of new houses erected during the year:-			
(a)	By local authority	Nil	21
(b)	By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(c)	By other bodies or persons	Nil	8
<hr/>			
1.	<u>Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-</u>		
(1)	(a)	Total no. of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	175
	(b)	No. of inspections formal or informal made for the purpose.	463
(2)	Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:		
	(a)	Number found during the year.	Nil
	(b)	Total number existing at end of year	169
(3)	No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.		29
<hr/>			
2.	<u>Houses Demolished.</u>	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons. Families
	In Clearance Areas:		
	Houses unfit for human habitation.	12	4 2
	Not in Clearance Areas:		
	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	8	3 1
	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	2	63 18
<hr/>			
3.	<u>Unfit Houses Closed:</u>	Number	
(1)	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	4	12 4
<hr/>			
4.	<u>Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied.</u>	By Owner.	By Local Authority
(1)	After informal action by Local Authority	21	---
(2)	After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts.	2	Nil
	(b) Section 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil
<hr/>			
5.	<u>Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):-</u>		Nil
<hr/>			
6.	<u>Houses in Clearance Areas Purchased by Agreement:-</u>		Nil

7. Housing Act, 1949, & Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants, etc.

Action during year:

- (a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority
- (b) Approved by local authority
- (c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry
- (d) Finally approved by Ministry
- (e) Work completed
- (f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above

No. of Schemes.	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
10	11
6	6
3	4
Nil	Nil
3	3
Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Information regarding the inspection of meat, shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is prepared are given in the report of the Public Health Inspector, as also are particulars of registration under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54 and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-52.

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

4 houses were disinfected by formaldehyde vapour, following tuberculosis and clothing and bedding has been steam disinfected when necessary at Devonshire Road Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness.

Notifications of Infectious Disease.

Disease.	Number of cases in year					1958		
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Number of Cases	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.
Scarlet fever	13	12	7	1	0	2	0	0
Measles	298	98	46	5	30	337	0	0
Whooping cough	0	35	4	7	10	10	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	1	6	0	1	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0	0	1	11	1	0
Para-typhoid fever	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal infection	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
TOTALS	312	147	63	13	48	360	1	0

Following three years of comparative freedom from measles the large outbreak this year was not unexpected. Most of the cases occurred in the first quarter of the year.

The cases of dysentery occurred during the last week in May and the first three weeks of June. Seven were in children of five or six years of age, one in a child of two years and three in adults. They occurred in widely separated parts of the town, the children attended different schools and enquiries revealed that school meals were not the source of infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the number of new cases and mortality during 1958.

Age periods Years.	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25-	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
30-	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75 and upwards.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4		0		0		0	

The table below shows the number of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis in Ulverston during the past 12 years.

Years.	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1947	6	3	1	2	0	3	0	0
1948	1	6	1	0	4	4	0	0
1949	1	4	2	0	1	1	0	0
1950	3	6	3	0	2	3	0	0
1951	5	5	0	3	1	0	0	1
1952	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0
1953	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1954	6	7	1	0	1	1	0	0
1955	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1956	4	4	2	0	1	1	0	0
1957	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1958	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector.

Promises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the local authority.	6	9	1	Nil
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	58	71	1	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority, excluding outworkers premises.	1	1	Nil	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 & 1951.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the above mentioned acts during the year.

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The report of the Public Health Inspector is appended.

In conclusion it is my pleasure to thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the Ulverston Urban District Council, particularly the Public Health Inspector for their unfailing courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J.L. WILD.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR

1958

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ulverston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit a summary of the work relating to Public Health Administration carried out by the Department during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1958.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

A regular weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year. Disposal of the refuse has been by controlled tipping at Next Ness. Treatments have been carried out to prevent infestations by rodents and insects and the tip has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

RODENT CONTROL.

Routine treatments of sewers, sewage works, controlled tip and beck courses have been carried out.

The following is a summary of the total treatments undertaken.

PROPERTIES.

Dwelling houses	148
Other properties	114
Agricultural	41

The Council have contracts with occupiers of six farms and small holdings for the destruction of rats and mice. It is now possible to control land surrounding the refuse tip and other sources of likely infestation at one operation.

HOUSING.

Clearance of the 50 Ministry of Aircraft Production pre-fabricated bungalows owned by the Council commenced during the early part of the year following the Ministry of Housing and Local Governments agreement to allow slum clearance subsidies for the provision of new dwellings for displaced families. 18 families have since been re-housed from the bungalows in the worst state of repair. As a number of the bungalows will have to be occupied for a further four to five years, ten have been repaired and painted and a further 20 repaired so as to be wind and weatherproof. Bungalows demolished show that parts of the wood base have been rotted through to the concrete foundations and the metal frames so rusted as to be incapable of securely holding together the asbestos panels and sawdust insulation - defects which could not have been prevented by normal maintenance or rectified without complete reconstruction.

12 houses comprising Daltongate Clearance Order were demolished; the Council having to take default action in respect of nine of the houses which the owners failed to demolish. Six houses in Neville Street, already closed, were demolished by the owner, and two houses in Back Lanes were demolished after a demolition order had been served. Four individual unfit houses were closed and four families re-housed.

Dye-House Yard Clearance Area, consisting of 12 houses has been approved.

Under the Rent Act, 1957, 13 applications were made for certificates of disrepair and three such certificates were issued. Undertakings to carry out the necessary repairs were given in respect of 13 houses and one certificate was cancelled in spite of the tenants objection.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The public slaughterhouse in the Gill has again been used by the majority of local butchers and two butchers from the Rural District. The total number of animals slaughtered (4,645) is considerably less than previous years (5,411 in 1957), probably due to economic factors brought about by the increased demand for home-bred animals.

The lease of the premises is due to expire in the Autumn of 1959 and as a result of several meetings between the Council, butchers and other interested parties, proposals for the construction of a new public slaughterhouse are now taking effect. The poor hygienic standards of the Gill slaughterhouse have been referred to in previous reports and it is now obvious that the buildings could not be made to comply with the proposed Hygiene or Prevention of Cruelty Regulations coming into force in the near future.

It gives pleasure to again refer to the continued decrease in the number of diseased animals (and subsequent condemnation) found, particularly tuberculosis. No bovine animal was found to be affected with this disease and out of all the animals inspected, localised tubercular infections were found in only two pigs. The greater majority of animals condemned for other causes were received as casualties.

The incidence of Cysticercus Bovis has increased and ten animals were infected - one being condemned for generalised infection and the other nine subjected to three week refrigeration in accordance with Ministry policy before being released for sale.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	771	174	76	3012	612
Number inspected	771	174	76	3012	612
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	1	1	9	15	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.....	12	21	-	7	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis..	1.7%	12.7%	11.8%	0.7%	0.5%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.....	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.....	-	-	-	-	0.3%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.....	8	1	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.....	8	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.....	1	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number affected with Cyst icercosis.....	1.2%	0.6%	-	-	-

Causes of Condemnation.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bruising, extensive and severe	-	-	2	-	2
Cysticercus bovis	1	-	-	-	1
Emaciation, pathological	-	-	7	-	7
Gangrene	-	-	-	1	1
Immaturity	-	3	-	-	3
Oedema, generalised	-	-	2	-	2
Pleurisy, septic	-	-	2	-	2
Pyæmia, including joint ill	1	5	2	1	9
Septicaemic or toxaemia	-	1	-	-	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>28</u>

Food Shops and Premises.

Frequent visits to all food premises have been made and 336 inspections were carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The general standard of the premises is good but there is still a necessity to require a higher standard of practical hygiene to be put into daily use.

As a result of inspection the following were required and completed at various food premises:-

Installation of additional hand washing basins - 2
Cleansing and redecorating - 14
New hot water supply and sink - 2
Provision of refrigeration - 2
Repairs of food rooms - 5

Ice-Cream.

Two premises are registered for the manufacture and sale and 35 premises for storage and sale of ice cream. The retailers mainly sell pre-packed ice-cream supplied by the larger manufacturers outside the district. All premises have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Milk and Dairies.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54 two persons are registered as Distributors and two premises are registered for use as Dairies (not being Dairy Farms).

Four dealer's licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and one retail Distributors licence to sell Pasteurised Milk have been issued.

Shrimp Picking.

22 houses have been registered under the Food and Drugs act for shrimp picking and 46 visits were made.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J.K. YATES,

Public Health Inspector.

